

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1-31 (Cancelled)

32. (New) An implantable intraocular lens adapted for positioning within the capsule of a human eye as a replacement for the natural lens, the intraocular lens comprising:

an optic disposed about an optical axis and comprising a resilient, shape-retaining synthetic material;

a positioning member operably coupled with the optic and responsive to ciliary body movement in order to change the shape of the optic between a first optic shape and a second optic shape, where the second optic shape has a thickness that is greater than the first optic shape;

the positioning member comprising an outer body with an outer surface that is arcuate along a plane parallel to, and passing through, the optical axis, the outer body including anterior and posterior segments, the optic being connected to the positioning member at a location central to the outer body in a direction along the optical axis, the anterior segment located anterior to the optic in a direction along the optical axis and the posterior segment located posterior to the optic in a direction along the optical axis.

33. (New) The lens of claim 32, the lens having a lens plane normal to optical axis which approximately bisects the lens, the optic being connected to the positioning member so that the optic lies substantially along the lens plane.

34. (New) The lens of claim 32, the lens further comprising a plurality of spaced-apart arms extending radially from the optic.

35. (New) The lens of claim 34, the arms extending in a straight line from the optic.

36. (New) The lens of claim 32, the outer body comprising a plurality of spaced-apart legs configured to engage the capsule of an eye.

37. (New) The lens of claim 36, the positioning member further comprising a plurality of spaced-apart arms extending radially from the optic to the spaced-apart legs.

38. (New) The lens of claim 37, wherein the legs are arcuate in cross-section and include a bight, each of the arms being joined to a corresponding one of the spaced-apart legs at a bight.

39. (New) The lens of claim 32, the material being selected from the group consisting of gels, silicone, silicone blends, refractive liquids, elastomeric materials, rubbers, acrylates, and mixtures of the foregoing.

40. (New) The lens of claim 32, the optics being substantially between and captively retained by the segments.

41. (New) The lens of claim 32, the lens having an equatorial diameter of from about 8 to 12 mm.

42. (New) The lens of claim 32, the lens having a polar height of from about 2 to 5 mm.

43. (New) The lens of claim 32, the lens having a diopter value of from about 16 to 26.

44. (New) The lens of claim 32, wherein the outer body forms an enclosure about the optic, the enclosure having a central opening that intersects the optical axis at a location anterior to the optic.

45. (New) The lens of claim 32, wherein the outer surface of the outer body has an equator, the outer surface extending radially inward from the equator along a plane parallel to, and passing through, the optical axis.

46. (New) The lens of claim 32, wherein the anterior and posterior segments are joined by a bight, the bight forming an equatorial portion having a size and shape to substantially conform with an inner surface of an equatorial portion of the capsule of a human eye.

47. (New) The lens of claim 32, wherein the anterior segments or the posterior segments are joined by an annular portion, the annular portion located anterior to the optic or posterior to the optic in a direction along the optical axis.

48. (New) An implantable intraocular lens adapted for positioning within the capsule of a human eye as a replacement for the natural lens, the intraocular lens comprising:

a central polar axis;

an optic comprising a resilient, shape-retaining synthetic material; and

a positioning member comprising an outer body including a plurality of anterior segments, corresponding posterior segments, and bights disposed between the anterior segments and the posterior segments;

a plurality of arms joining the optic to the positioning member at the bights;

the positioning member operably coupled with the optic and responsive to ciliary body movement in order to change the shape of the optic between a first optic shape and a second optic shape, the anterior segments circumferentially defining a central opening in the outer body, the central opening intersecting the central polar axis at a location anterior to the optic.

49. (New) The lens of claim 48, further comprising an outside dimension along the central polar axis that is from about 1 mm to 5 mm.

50. (New) The lens of claim 48, wherein the second optic shape has a thickness that is greater than the first optic shape.

51. (New) The lens of claim 48, wherein the optic is disposed between a first plane perpendicular to the central polar axis that passes through the anterior segments and a second plane perpendicular to the central polar axis that passes through the posterior segments.

52. (New) The lens of claim 48, wherein the posterior segments are disposed about a second central opening in the outer body, the second central opening intersecting the central polar axis at a location posterior to the optic.

53. (New) An implantable intraocular lens adapted for positioning within the capsule of a human eye as a replacement for the natural lens, the intraocular lens comprising:

an optic comprising a resilient, shape-retaining synthetic material; and

a positioning member disposed about a central polar axis and comprising a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart haptic arms joined to a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart positioning legs, each of the haptic legs having an outer surface that is arcuate in a plane parallel to, and passing through, the central polar axis, the legs being joined with the optic via the haptic arms;

the positioning member operably coupled with the optic and responsive to ciliary body movement in order to change the shape of the optic between a first optic shape and a second optic shape.

54. (New) The lens of claim 53, wherein the lens comprises plane passing through an equator of an outer body of the positioning member, the plane being located so that the arms and optic lie substantially within the plane.

55. (New) The lens of claim 53, wherein the second optic shape has a thickness that is greater than the first optic shape.

56. (New) The lens of claim 53, wherein the legs include anterior and posterior segments, the optic being disposed between a first plane perpendicular to the central polar axis that passes through the anterior segment and a second plane perpendicular to the central polar axis that passes through the posterior segment.

57. (New) The lens of claim 53, wherein the optic is disposed about the central polar axis, the positioning member forming an enclosure about the optic, the enclosure including a central opening intersecting the central polar axis at a location anterior to the optic.

58. (New) The lens of claim 53, wherein the legs define an outer surface of the positioning member, the outer surface having an equator, the surface extending radially inward from the equator along a plane passing through the central polar axis, the outer surface being arcuate in cross-section in a plane parallel to, and passing through, the central polar axis.

59. (New) The lens of claim 53, wherein the legs join to form an equatorial portion having a size and shape to substantially conform with an inner surface of an equatorial portion of the capsule of a human eye.